THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:

A.A. Scheidemann et al.

Attorney Docket No.: UOFW118604

Application No.: 10/052,891

Group Art Unit: 3653

Filed:

January 18, 2002

Examiner: T. Nguyen

Title:

MAGNETIC SEPARATOR FOR LINEAR DISPERSION

AND METHOD FOR PRODUCING THE SAME

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Seattle, Washington 98101

May 9, 2002

TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

This application is a continuation of copending U.S. patent application Serial No. 09/469,662, filed December 22, 1999 (now abandoned), which is a divisional of U.S. patent application Serial No. 09/325,936, filed June 4, 1999, now U.S. Patent No. 6,182,831 B1, issued February 6, 2001. In order to advance the prosecution by way of further response to the final Office Action dated July 18, 2001 (Paper No. 8), in the immediate parent application No. 09/469,662 (now abandoned), please amend this patent application as indicated below.

In the Specification:

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 4 to read as follows:

This application is a continuation of copending U.S. patent application Serial No. 09/469,662, filed December 22, 1999, which is a divisional of U.S. patent application Serial No. 09/325,936, filed June 4, 1999, now U.S. Patent No. 6,182,831 B1, issued February 6, 2001; which is a continuation of international application Serial No. PCT/US98/21000, filed October 6, 1998, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. provisional patent application Serial No. 60/061,394, filed October 7, 1997, priority of the filing dates of which is hereby claimed under 35 U.S.C. §§ 112 and 119, respectively. Each of these applications is incorporated herein by reference.

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